

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Office of Commissioner Susan D. Parker ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### PSC Commissioner Parker Clarifies Trucking Regulations

**MONTGOMERY** – Today PSC Commissioner Susan D. Parker clarified recent legislation passed by the U. S. Congress giving the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) Plan Board of Directors the authority to execute rules regarding the registration of transportation carriers designated in the UCR agreement.

The Alabama Public Service Commission was tasked with putting these regulations in place and accordingly issued correspondence to almost 15,000 individuals and companies registered as interstate carriers through the DOT.

Of the massive number of carriers registered through DOT, a large number included farmers who became perplexed on how these regulations affected Alabama farmers. Although the correspondence endeavored to detail the regulations as set by the DOT and the UCR Board, it failed to clarify that the fees imposed only required those farmers that operated vehicles outside the state to register subject to the UCR agreement.

Following numerous inquiries from constituents, PSC Commissioner Parker took the initiative to clarify the farmers' concerns. "The Alabama farmer is invaluable to the quality of our economy in this state. We are committed to promoting safety and efficiency through our trucking and railroad systems in Alabama. Our efforts to regulate these entities must be carried out through clarifying our regulations for all carriers. Therefore, only Alabama's farmers that operate vehicles across state lines will be affected by this new regulation," said Parker. Parker added that hopefully the further investigation of this legislation for clarity will ease the concern expressed among farmers.

Parker was elected to the Public Service Commission, Place 2, in November 2006. The PSC regulates investor-owned utilities in Alabama, including Alabama Power, Alabama Gas Corporation and most telephone companies, as well as trucking and railroad safety.

Anyone needing further clarification regarding the trucking regulation may contact the Alabama Public Service Commission's Legal Division at 242-5800 or the Transportation Division at 242-5980.

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